

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRESS WRITES TO BOUTROS  
GHALI ABOUT INDIAN REPRES-  
SION OF SIKHS

## HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 1995

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note that a letter has been sent to Boutros Boutros-Ghali, the Secretary General of the United Nations, demanding that the United Nations get involved in seeking the release of Jaswant Singh Khalsa, the Indian human rights activist who was kidnapped by the police outside his house in Amritsar on September 6. Here it is early December and his whereabouts are still unknown. Mr. Khalsa was kidnapped after publishing a report which showed that the Indian regime had kidnapped more than 25,000 young Sikh men, tortured them, murdered them, then declared their bodies unidentified and cremated them. The police chief of Tarn Taran, Ajit S. Sandhu, reportedly told Mr. Khalsa, "We made 25,000 disappear." Amnesty International reports that for this threat, Mr. Sandhu was recently transferred to another district. Transfer is the most severe punishment a police official faces.

As Amnesty International said in its report entitled "Determining the fate of the disappeared in Punjab," "Punjab police have been allowed to commit human rights violations with impunity."

Recently, the United Nations spoke out strongly against the executions of nine political activists in Nigeria. That was the right thing to do. People should not be killed or abducted and tortured for expressing political opinions or for exposing abuses of the rights of others. Yet the United Nations has not spoken up against the illegal detention of Mr. Khalsa, the ongoing illegal detention of more than 70,000 other Sikhs under a repressive, expired law known as Tada, which has been discussed in this House many times, or any of India's massive abuses of the fundamental human rights of Sikhs and other minorities. This is the same United Nations, by the way, under whose auspices President Clinton is sending 20,000 Americans to keep a very fragile peace in Bosnia. Why won't the Secretary General speak out against human rights abuses in India, one of the most oppressive and corrupt countries in the world? Is it because India falsely claims to be a "democracy"?

It is time for the United Nations to condemn human rights violations in India as it does so effectively around the world.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDO-  
ONESIA'S INVASION OF EAST  
TIMOR

## HON. JACK REED

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 1995

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, on December 7, 1975, Indonesia invaded the small country of East Timor and began two decades of violent occupation and repression. More than 200,000 East Timorese have been killed or have died of starvation since the invasion of the Indonesian Government. Portugal continues to protest Indonesia's invasion, and the United Nations has never recognized Indonesia's claim on East Timor. Both the Security Council and the General Assembly have issued numerous resolutions reaffirming East Timor's right to self-determination. However, these actions have been ineffective.

Tragically, we are still witnessing the harsh reality of this invasion. Massacres, disappearances, suppression of free speech, and human rights abuses have consistently been reported since the invasion. In November 1991, the world was outraged by the Santa Cruz massacre where Indonesian soldiers opened fire into an unarmed crowd, killing more than 250 people; in June of 1994, Indonesian troops committed acts of sacrilege against the East Timorese Church and clergy; in July 1994, a clash between East Timorese students and Indonesian troops in response to this incident left 18 students injured; and in January of this year, Indonesian soldiers kidnapped, tortured, and murdered six civilians.

At a joint hearing before the International Relations Subcommittees on Asia and the Pacific and International Operations and Human Rights on March 16, the Director of the Human Rights Watch stated: "In East Timor, violations of fundamental rights has been especially severe, and have worsened dramatically since the APEC summit meeting in Jakarta last November."

Congress has acted on behalf of the people of East Timor, but I believe we must do more. The United States must not tolerate continued human rights abuses by the military in East Timor. We must not turn our backs on the East Timorese, who, against great odds, have resisted the Indonesian invasion for 20 years. The U.S. should not let another 20 years of human rights abuses and oppression pass. I commend my colleagues Representatives KENNEDY and LOWEY for their efforts to recognize this anniversary on behalf of the people of East Timor, and for introducing the East Timor Human Rights Accountability Act of 1995. I urge my colleagues to continue to condemn acts of violence by the Indonesian Government against the people of East Timor.

DELHI MASSACRES

## HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 1995

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note that last month Sikhs and the world remembered the 11th anniversary of the brutal November 1984 massacre of Sikhs in which more than 40,000 Sikhs were killed by government-inspired mobs while government television and radio repeatedly called for more Sikh blood. Over 20,000 Sikhs were killed in Delhi alone during this massacre. For 3 days, the police stood aside, under strict orders to do nothing. Sikh police officers were disarmed and confined to their barracks to prevent them from helping their Sikh brothers and sisters.

In all, more than 150,000 Sikhs have been murdered in India since 1984. In addition, there have been murders of over 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, more than 43,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988, tens of thousands of Assamese, Manipuris, and others, and thousands of Dalits "black untouchables". The State Department reported in 1994 that between 1991 and 1993, the Indian regime paid over 41,000 cash bounties to police officers for killing Sikhs.

Self-determination is the God-given right of all people of all nations. This is the principle that underlies our Declaration of Independence, and it is a principle that is sweeping the world. On October 7, 1987, the Sikh nation asserted its right the self-determination by declaring its independence from India, forming the sovereign, independent country of Khalistan. The Sikhs had ruled Punjab from 1765 to 1849. India's response to Khalistan's declaration of independence has been to set up the repression against the Sikh nation. Today Khalistan lives under the occupation of 500,000 Indian troops—more troops than the British stationed in the entire subcontinent at any time during their rule.

As the leader of the free, democratic countries of the world, the United States should not be propping up this repressive tyranny. It is time for America to take strong action to see to it that India respects human rights and the right of self-determination.

I am introducing into the RECORD a speech delivered by Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, at a November 4 rally commemorating the November 1984 massacres.

STATEMENT OF DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH

Today we are gathered to commemorate the anniversary of India's brutal November 1984 massacres of Sikhs in which more than 20,000 Sikhs were murdered by government-inspired mobs in Delhi alone, and over 40,000 throughout India. As the Home Minister at that time, Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao was intimately involved in that murderous operation. For three days, the regime did nothing about the massacre while the state television and radio cried for more Sikh blood. In India there is no peace

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.